



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Reppert *et al.* Art Unit : 1646
 Serial No. : 09/226,046 Examiner : Pak, M.
 Filed : January 5, 1999
 Title : HIGH-AFFINITY MELATONIN RECEPTOR AND USES THEREOF

Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed March 24, 2000, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 18-30 and 36.

33. (Amended) A method of testing a candidate compound for the ability to act as an agonist of a high affinity melatonin receptor ligand, said method comprising:

- a) contacting said candidate compound with a mammalian cell which expresses on its surface a recombinant high-affinity melatonin receptor protein or melatonin binding fragment or analog thereof;
- b) measuring intracellular cAMP concentration in said cell; and
- c) where said contacting causes a decrease in intracellular cAMP concentration, identifying said candidate compound as an agonist of a high affinity melatonin receptor ligand [where said contacting causes a decrease in intracellular cAMP concentration].

34. (Amended) A method of testing a candidate compound for the ability to act as an antagonist of a high affinity melatonin receptor ligand, said method comprising:

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I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

June 30, 2000
 Date of Deposit

Jeanne D. Boyle
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